

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 782

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Fuad Mishu on the occasion of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Fuad Mishu celebrates his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 18, 2022, a milestone commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1922, Fuad Mishu has devoted his life to music, taking his art to virtuosic heights and pioneering the way for others to follow both in his native country of Iraq and his current home of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mishu has played violin, clarinet, and oud since he was thirteen; in addition to graduating from the School of Civil Engineering in Baghdad, he is a 1952 graduate of Iraq's Fine Arts Institute and a co-founder of both the Iraqi National Symphony Orchestra and the Iraqi Chamber Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, after an auspicious start to his career, he immigrated to the United States, taking up residence in Knoxville, where he came to serve as a member of the advisory board of the School of Music at the University of Tennessee, the Knoxville Symphony Board of Directors, the Music Study Club of Knoxville, and the Classic Sounds of Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, accomplished and acclaimed the world over for his excellence in music and his service to his fellow citizens, Fuad Mishu has been duly honored by a host of prestigious organizations, including the Knoxville Opera Hall of Fame, Catholic Foundation of Tennessee, Ministry of Information of Iraq, Ministry of Education of Iraq, Embassy of Iraq in the United States, and Iraqi Cultural Institute in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, one of the highlights of his career was meeting with President George W. Bush in the Oval Office on March 29, 2005, a fitting honor for such a fine individual who has made the United States his home and made it a better place because of his presence; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his musical contributions, Mr. Mishu has given back to his community through service with Friendship Force International, senior service at St. Mary's Hospital, the March of Dimes Board of Directors, and the Arab-American Club of Knoxville, of which he was a founding member; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many accomplishments, Fuad Mishu has enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Layla; three children, Sam, Tom, and Susan; and seven grandchildren, Tanya, Michael, Peter, Jessica, Sara, Linda, and J. Paul; and

WHEREAS, as Fuad Mishu enters his eleventh decade, he is still a positive force for good, admired for his wisdom, spirit of generosity, integrity, and enthusiasm for life; he is an inspiration to many; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Fuad Mishu on the celebration of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and extend to him our best wishes for many happy returns of the day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.